[1st March 1954

Stock of foodgrains in Malabar in November **1953.**

* 23 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the stock of foodgrains such as rice, wheat, etc., held in Malabar district in the latter half of November 1953, and in which places they were stocked; and

(*b*) the average weekly offtake of rice, wheat, etc., for the district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) A statement [a] showing the stock of foodgrains held in the several centres of Malabar district as on 16th November 1953 and 30th November 1953 is placed on the table of the House.

" (*b*) Malabar district—

Rice	..	2,408 tons.
Wheat	...	36 tons.
Millets	...	Nil."

SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" സാർ, കോഴിക്കോട്ടെ പി.സി.ഡി. സൊസൈറ്റിക്കു അടുത്ത കാലത്തു കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള അരി വളരെ മോശമാണെന്നു് ഒരു അഭിപ്രായമുണ്ടു്. മലബാറിലെ പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട പത്രങ്ങൾ ഇതേപ്പറ്റി റിപ്പോർട്ട് ചെയ്തിട്ടുമുണ്ടു്. അതു് ഗവമ്മേണ്ടിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ? ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഗവമ്മേണ്ടു് എന്താണു് ചെയ്യാൻ പോകുന്നതു്?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This question relates to the stock which was available on 16th November 1953 and 30th November 1953. With reference to the other question, let me inform the hon. Member that with regard to disposal of stock, the Civil Supplies Commissioner recently visited Malabar and inspected the stocks. He has passed orders de-grading certain stocks which were found to have deteriorated in quality. I think at present there is no difficulty. The situation has improved considerably."

SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" From the statement given by the Hon. Finance Minister, I find that no wheat had been stocked in rural areas of Malabar. May I know the reason why wheat had not been stocked?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I would request the hon. Member to do some propaganda, on behalf of Government and on his own behalf, in favour of people taking to wheat. Sufficient stocks of wheat were stored previously. It was found that there was practically no offtake. The stocks began to deteriorate. I do hope the hon. Member would take some interest in the matter and do some propaganda for wheat among his people."

SRI KUNHI MOHAMAD SHAFEE :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister for Food would be in a position to give the figures in regard to stock position of foodgrains in Malabar at present? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 295 infra.

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I cannot at present give the exact figures. But I may assure the hon. Member that we have considerable stock on hand in Malabar."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Is it not a fact that the offtake of rice has become less in Malabar because the rice supplied there is unwholesome and un-eatable? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The normal offtake is being maintained, Sir. If I can give comparative figures, the offtake of rice per week from fair price shops for the City and the rest of the Madras State excluding Malabar is 1,900 tons whereas in Malabar the offtake has been 2,408 tons. I do not think it could therefore be said that the offtake had gone down."

SRI R. KRISHNAN —" ഫിബ്രുവരി മാസത്തിൽ കോഴിക്കോട്ടെ പി. സി. സി. സൊസൈററിക്ക കൊടുത്ത അരിയെപ്പററിയാണ് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്. "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not know with reference to which period the hon. Member is putting his question. Is it with reference to the stock held in November or our present stock? "

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, I was saying that the offtake of rice had gone down in Malabar, when compared to last year's offtake. I did not say that the offtake of rice had become less when compared to the offtake in the rest of Madras State."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I may tell the hon. Member that the offtake had not gone down appreciably to any extent, when compared to last year's offtake."

SRI R. KRISHNAN :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் 'மலபாரில் ஸ்டாக்கிலிருந்த அரிசி எவ்வளவு? சென்ற முறை நாங்கள் இந்தச் சட்டசபையில் சொன்னபடி கெட்டுப்போன தாடப்பள்ளிக்கூடம் அரிசியை எடுத்துப்போய் விட்டார்களா? அந்த அரிசியே இன்னும் அங்கு தரப்பட்டு வருகிறதா?' என்று சொல்வார்களா? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" As soon as these complaints are received, they are investigated and then whatever action is necessary, is being taken."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions over. The general discussion on the Budget may now begin. Mr. Kalyanasundaram may now speak."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—POINT OF ORDER *RE* HUNGER STRIKE OF STUDENTS OF THAKKAR BABA VIDYALAYA, TYAGARAYANAGAR.

SRI A. RATNAM :—" On a point of order, Sir, கனம் சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்தச் சபை முன்பு கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் அடிக்கடி கொண்டுவரும் அவசரப் பிரேரணைகளை சர்க்கார் சரியான முறையில் பரிசீலனை செய்யாததின் காரணமாக இந்த நகரத்தில் பொது மக்களின் சுகாதாரம் பெரிதும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சென்ற வெள்ளிக்கிழமை